

The November '89 ACE



Radio
Free
Mass.

A. YODER
BEAVER FALLS, PA.
JULY 1, 89
02:18 UTC
7400.6 KHz

by H. V. Short

QSL # 1

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Dialogs

by Kirk Baxter

WELCOME to the November Dialogs column. I appreciate the great loggings I have been receiving over the last few months; if you haven't been contributing, start sending in your pirate loggings. If you are one of the contributors to the Dialogs column, keep up the good work! A copy of the logging form was printed as the "centerfold" of the October issue. If you need copies of the logging form, please send an SASE to the address given below. Loggings must be received at P. O. Box 11201, Shawnee Mission, KS 66207-0201 on or before the 25th of the month in order to be certain that they will be included in the following month's bulletin. In some cases, loggings received later may be included if space permits and if my schedule allows.

We would like to extend our thanks to Larry Miller of Monitoring Times for his article about the A*C*E. We have had several inquiries and new members join as a result of that article. However, we now face a similar situation with Popular Communications. It seems that the editor of PopComm, Tom Kneitel, believes that the A*C*E no longer exists, and therefore will not mention anything about our club. My letter to Mr. Kneitel is on its way, but I'd like to ask everyone who subscribes to PC to drop them a card or letter saying that you WISH he would give some mention of our club when he deals with pirates in his magazine. My thanks to everyone in advance for helping with this. As mentioned in last month's issue, we are taking WANT ADS for items for sale or wanted by our membership. The ads will be run on a space available basis, and should contain your name, address or phone number so that you can be contacted. The A*C*E will not be able to act as a maildrop for ads. Send your advertisements to the club HQ address. Our thanks to Mark Pierce for the crossword puzzle which ran in the October issue (with the answer printed this month). Also, thanks to the many that sent in photocopies of their QSLs for the cover of the A*C*E. We continue to welcome feature material, and solicit everyone to send copies of their cards for future possible publication.

NORTH AMERICA - SHORTWAVE

CHGO: 7415, 10/1, 0029-0209. Played lots of older progressive rock & some jazz. Voice more muffled than mx. Free Radio One started on top of CHGO at 0120; fortunately CHGO could still be hrd. (SACHS,IL) 7414.9v, 10/1, 0029-0124+, SIO=433-. Rock by Beatles, Stones, Pink Floyd & Jeff Airplane. Mellow talks by OM, poorly copied in WSHB slop & RTTY QRM. Sig hits S9+5 occ. Mx good, but little copy on talk. No addr. DJ was Long John Silver. (ZELLER,OH) 7399.7, 10/15, 0236-0255*, SIO=423. Beatles & Jeff Airplane mx. Ided as "CHGO, Chicago's Alternative R. Radio so good, it's revolutionary." QRT mid-song; good thing as Portuguese Navy RFPN RTTY came on 7397 at 0258 & would have clobbered it. QRM de Hope R. 16 - LBS ECSS needed for copy. No addr. (ZELLER,OH) 7400v, 10/15, 0503-0537. Songs incl "White Rabbit" by Airplane. Claimed QTH of outskirts of Chicago. Anyone have an addr? (SACHS,IL) 7400, 10/15, 0503-0549?. Barely caught this one due to QRN/QRN. Beatles & R & R. PSE QSL. (SPOONER,MA)

East Coast Pirate Radio (R. Damascus): 7415v, 10/1->2, 2303-0003*, SIO=454. 5 Tull songs, 2 Alice Cooper, 3 Stones, 3 Beatles, etc. Dead air between songs. OM talked twice. At 2331, "East Coast Radio, 7415." At QRT anncd as test w/ apparent phony addr incl "Byers Hall, Cable Street." Excellent sig until 2356 when hit by WSHB slop. PSE QSL. (ZELLER,OH) 7415v, 10/1->10/2, 2321-0003*, SIO=533. Beatles & other rock mx. "East Coast Pirate testing" & possibly said R. Damascus & "I am from Albania;" could not copy clearly. Strong sig, poor audio. PSE QSL. (RICHOLSON,VA) 7415, 10/1, 2330-0003*, SIO=444/422. VG sig until WSHB s/on. Album rock singles. Only ID at end. 1st bcst? (YODER,WV) 7415, 10/1, 2338-0003*, SIO=454. Rock vocals. 2356 s/on of WCSN splattered them. PSE QSL. Tnx to Zeller & Yoder for ID. (D'ANGELO,PA) 7415, 10/1, 2348-0003*. Good sig. Hrd Beatles "I am the Walrus" & "All You Need is Love." Someone threw a carrier @ 2351. CCR mx "Fortunate Son" & "Travelin' Band" until 0001. ID at 0002... "This concludes the test xmsn from the East Coast Pirate Radio 7415. If you'd like a QSL, please send your reception report to ACE magazine and leave your name and address and

???? in addition ???" Abruptly off air @ 0003. PSE QSL. (ROSS,ONT) 7415, 10/2, 0412+. Good reception at beginning. Hrd one mention of "Cape Cod Radio" & at end hrd mention of test bcst of "East Coast Radio." Rpts to ACE. PSE QSL. (SPOONER,MA) 7474v, 10/8, 0314-0400*, SIO=444. Powerhouse until clobbered by AA stn at 0322. Rock classics; some audio distortion. IS was beautiful chord on harp, rpted many times. (PYM,DC) 7474, 10/8, 0316-0322+, SIO=422. +20 sig here, but boomy audio, muffled mike. Severe intermittent ute QRM. Hendrix & CCR. 2 clear IDs. Much dead air. AA stn on 0322 obliterated reception. (SMITH,NY) 7477, 10/8, 0319-0322, SIO=555. Best pirate sig hrd here! Clear & strong. CCR "Fortunate Son" & muzak version of "Yellow Submarine." Send info to ACE. 100 watts. PSE QSL. (ALLINSON,NC) 7442.2, 10/8, 2006-2052*, SIO=544. Rock incl "Magic Bus", "Talk About Last Night," etc. QSLs via ACE BBS (ANARC BBS), the ACE & PopComm. Ended w/ "That's about all for this xmsn of East Coast Pirate Radio." PSE QSL. (RICHOLSON,VA) 7445, 10/9, 2130-2135*, SIO=555. "Riders on the Storm" by Doors. Great sig. Logs to ACE. (YODER,WV) 7442.3, 10/15, 2114, SIO=444. Classical mx incl William Tell Overture. Test xmsn. To be an 11m test on 26048 next weekend. No maildrop; will QSL logs on ACE BBS or ACE Bulletin if addr given. PSE QSL. (ZELLER,OH) 7442.2, 10/21, 2231-2258*, SIO=433. Test xmsn w/ rock mx & freq IDs. QSLs offered via P. O. B. 6527, Baltimore, MD 21219 for 3 stamps. (RICHOLSON,VA) 7442, 10/21, 2237-2258*, SIO=233. Mx from Jeff Airplane, Hendrix, etc. Test anncd w/ Baltimore addr. ECPR noted briefly earlier on 2138-2142* on same freq. (SMITH,NY) 7445, 10/21, 2240-2258, SIO=434. Mx by Airplane, Talking Heads, etc. Baltimore addr & ID between every song. (YODER,WV)

Free Radio One: 7415, 9/2, 2300-2312*. OM w/ political talk & commentary. Spot for "The Justice Times." (ROSS,ONT) 7415, 10/1, *0115-0119*, SIO=423+. On & off; QRMing CHGO. OM says "Free R. One testing from St. Joe, Mich." No pgming. (ZELLER,OH) 7415, 10/9, 1638-1650*, SIO=252. Usual 2 OM interview abt the book "Tax Scam" which can be ordered at 800-528-0559. OR addr. Anncd immediate test on 4005 kHz. (ZELLER,OH) 4005, 10/9, 1650-1653*, SIO=252-. Test w/ dead air & YL w/ OR addr. Sig weaker, but audible w/ ID. LSB test not hrd. (ZELLER,OH) 7415, 10/15, 0032-0039*, SIO=322+. Anti-US.gov't & IRS remarks. First time for mx, a folk ballad anti-IRS. (ZELLER,OH) 7415, 10/20, 1912-1914+, SIO=152. Strange log for an early Fri afternoon. Found it because I was testing new headphones. (YODER,WV)

Hope Radio 16 America: 7374.5, 10/7, 1914-1922*, *1929+, 2004-2047*, SIO=555. 1st hrd w/ Led Zep guitar riff for test & set-up. After 2000, M annrc anncd debut pgm. Logs from April 89 "Pirate's Den." Read Kneitel's editorial abt RNI. Tech pgm abt dipoles. Hrd again on 7378 from 2208 to 0000 when lost to WRNO. 7374, 10/7, *2001-2046*, SIO=454. Lots of Led Zep mx. Pirate News from year-old "Pirates Den" column. Treatise on dipole antenna. Began & ended w/ "Black Mountain Side" by Zep. (SMITH,NY) 7375, 10/7, 2008-2200+, SIO=444. Played guitar IS for almost an hour before pgm began. Claimed rights being taken away by the corporate elite. Pathetic DX pgm. (PYM,DC) 7374, 10/7, 2008-2046*, SIO=555. Incredible sig, no fading. MJ has good vx & seems to be trying hard, but needs more current "pirate news." PSE QSL. (YODER,WV) 7374.7, 10/7, 2021-2046*, SIO=333. "Debut bcst" de Hope Radio 16 America. "Dedicated to free speech", "this is freedom for the Constitution... from northeast portion of America." Said they are using a homebrew xmtr & deliberately picked this freq. Read an editorial from PopComm abt R. NewYork Int'l; also Pirate's Den loggings (probably straight from PopComm). Want receipt rpts to PopComm; said they'll try to find addr of listeners & send QSLs. Looking for mail drop. PSE QSL. (RICHOLSON,VA) 7357.9, 10/7, 2219-0020, SIO=433. Cosby skits on dentists, his parents, wife, making chocolate cake for kids' breakfast, "Cosby up the middle" football skit, etc. Enormous QRM at 0000 de WRNO, but on until at least 0020. Repeated Pirate's Den item; mentioned R. Clandestine. PSE QSL. (RICHOLSON,VA) 7376.4v, 10/9, 0157-0322, SIO=544. Annrc MJ w/ pgm consisting of "Freedom Rock Show;" "Headline News" (actual news, not a spoof); "Pirate's Den" column; "The Grunt Club" w/ Cosby sketches; & "DX Technician" (w/ radio/tech talk); & speech on Constitutional rights. Claimed 100-110 watts w/ QTH 15 miles east of Portsmouth. Rpts to PopComm, but said PC will not act as drop. Said would QSL hams if contacted on 3900 kHz after bcst. (RICHOLSON,VA) 7376, 10/9,

0214-0322*. Cosby comedy & rock. Excellent sig. Annor was MJ of the Grump Club. Request for hams to respond on 3900 after bcst; hrd several do so. (SPOONER,MA) 7380, 10/9, 0220-0310+, SIO=433. Hard rock, old PopComm & Cosby skits. (YODER,WV) 7376.6, 10/9, 0300-0321, SIO=444. Talk abt pirate bcsting & aspects of Constitutional rights & laws. Claimed QTH 15 mi E of Portsmouth (Va?) w/ 100 watts into dipole up 75 ft. Rpts via PopComm or via 3900 kHz after bcst. After s/off, hrd one individual "Roast Beef" in NJ leave a rpt, but no reply. (PEEBLES,OH) 7376.6v, 10/9, 0304-0322*, SIO=544+. "Pirate's Den" DX pgm w/ advice to ops on IDs & TCs. Advice on contest giveaways. 10 min talk on unconstitutional laws. Annncd maildrop search. Outstanding sig w/ good mod. PSE QSL. (ZELLER,OH) 7377, 10/9, 0305-0325, SIO=444. VM annor w/ dissertation on operating stn, followed by QSL info - write to Pirate's Den in Pop Comm. Stn is non-profit, non-corporate w/ 100 watts maritime mobile w/ dipole antenna. Hams were invited to tune to 3900 kHz after bcst for QSL. Another commentary on 1st amendment. PSE QSL. (ALLINSON,NC) 7405.8, 10/14, 2107-2118*. Excellent sig. No mail drop yet; rpts to PopComm. Cosby comedy & rock. (SPOONER,MA) 7406, 10/13, 2034-2106+, SIO=555. "Legends of Rock" show w/ Zep. Cosby comedy & PopComm. (SMITH,NY) 7406, 10/14, 1520-1523*, SIO=455. Hrd ending ID & Zep's "Black Mtn Side" then off. (SMITH,NY) 7403.4, 10/15, 0204-0341+, SIO=323-/444. Long IS of Beatles sitar mx & ooc IDs by OM. Many blues songs by Robert Johnson w/ ooc IDs. Annncd // 1620 MW but not hrd. Nonprofit, noncommercial stn dedicated to the Constitution. Usual rptg methods. QRMd badly by CHGO until 0255 w/ good sig after that. Long talk abt RNI bust. Cosby comedy album. (ZELLER,OH) 7403.3v, 10/15, 1354-1509*, SIO=343+. Repeat of 0240 xman, hrd during time ANARC net on the air. Annncd on net by Sheldon Harvey & Chris Field Gateway logs. (ZELLER,OH) 7403, 10/15, 1426-1509*, SIO=454. Hrd tip on ANARC net. Feature on RNI. Cosby comedy. Jazz. PSE QSL. (D'ANGELO,PA) 7355, 10/20, 2008-2030+, SIO=151. Terrible band condx from solar flare, but HR16 still getting through. MJ w/ editorial abt FCC needing to allocate 1600-1700 for free radio. (SMITH,NY) 7350, 10/20, 2237-2318*, SIO=333. ELO mx w/ same editorial as earlier. Different Cosby skits. (SMITH,NY) 7355, 10/21, 0305-0316+, SIO=434. Freedom rock show w/ ELO. Nice sig for a normally messy freq. PSE QSL. (YODER,WV) 7405, date?, 1945-2003. Very strong & clear sig w/ no fading. Blues mx, part of Freedom Rock show. Gave MW & SW freqs, w/ the latter being around 7400. Still on at 2003. PopComm QSL mentioned. PSE QSL. (LANDAU,NJ)

Monty Python Radio: 7420, 10/21, 2048-2109*, SIO=423. All Monty Python skits incl ones abt Bookstore, the group Dead Monkeys, song "I Like Traffic Lights," etc. Only ID at end. PSE QSL. (YODER,WV) 7416, 10/21, 2303-2309*, SIO=253. Monty skit abt bells. Weird song abt traffic lights & crazy childrens' choral song. Strange sound effects throughout. At end: "This is Monty Python Radio. Tune in tomorrow at the same time for more Monty Python Radio..." (SMITH,NY)

R.F.M.: 7415.5, 9/4, 0320-0350. Carrier til s/on 0321. IDed as RFM, w/ WV addr. Instr & rock mx. Many IDs; repeats. Funny. (ROSS,ONT)

Radio Flatulence: 7416, 10/8, *2101-2126, SIO=322. Burns & Allen. IDed as "from somewhere off N Am continent, this is Radio Flatulence." QSLs for 3 1st class stamps to WV addr. (RICHOLSON,VA) 7415.9, 10/8, 2107-2129*. Burns & Allen show. WV addr. Weak, but readable. Stn on afterwards "Calling R. Flatulence." Hrd CQ twice & possible response. (SPOONER,MA) 7415.5->7415.9, 10/8, *2137*2138*2147*2155*, SIO=333. Muddy OM voice hrd. Broken bits of talk w/ mentions of Eddie "Egghead" Johnson, etc. Obvious test. (RICHOLSON,VA)

Radio USA: 7416.9, 9/24, 1345-1358*, SIO=423. Rock mx. Very muddy audio until s/off annmt - crystal clear! Ended w/ sirens. Off just in time for ANARC SWL Net. Offered QSLs for 3 stamps to Hilo addr. (RICHOLSON,VA) 7417, 10/1, 0400-0415*, SIO=232. OM annncs w/ ooc YL in comedy. Punk rock. "From a leaky bathtub off the coast of N Am." Pirate cards. 25 wrappers de Pirate Cards gets you a copy of "What to do when the FCC arrives" by Free Radio One. Hilo addr. Weak sig & loud het de Moscow on 7420 & nearby RTTY. (ZELLER,OH) 7417, 10/1, 0405-0416. Hard rock mix. Funny skit w/ YL but QRM bad enough to obliterate most of the copy. Gave Hilo addr w/ usual "Hi-Low." (SACHS,IL) 7415, 10/1, 0406-0416*, SIO=232. Mostly punk rock, but

hrd a few promos at end & ad for pirate trading cards. Weak sig. (YODER,PA) 7415, 10/1, 0412-0414*. Just caught the end of this one. (SPOONER,MA) 7416.8, 10/1, 1346-1400*, SIO=333. Like last week, pgm of rock mx; s/off in time for ANARC Net. "Hi-Low" addr. Mentioned Free Radio One & Pirate Trading Cards. (RICHOLSON,VA) 7417, 10/1, 1353-1400*(sic), SIO=454. Rpt of 0400 pgm. Best sig by far that I've ever hrd from them. QRT precisely at 1400, the beginning of ANARC Net. (ZELLER,OH) 7416.9, 10/7, 2047-2049*, SIO=323. Usual addr; request for 3 1st class stamps. Close w/ sirens. (RICHOLSON,VA) 7416.9, 10/7, 2047-2049*, SIO=444. Hrd s/off w/ QSL info: said "get your RU QSL today, before it's too late," followed by sirens. Nice to hear them again. (ARTHUR,NY) 7424, 10/15, 2020-2030*, SIO=222. Hrd OM & YL annncs w/ ad for "Pirate Swimsuit Calendar" from Pirates Illustrated & "Pirate Radio Cards." Annncd High-Low (Hilo) addr. S/off 2030; carrier on until 2039. (MCCRACKIN,CA)

Red Rose Radio: 7415, 10/9, 2238-2255*. Excellent sig. Various ads for business in Wickersham w/ prices in pounds. Off abruptly. (SPOONER,MA) 7415, 10/9, 2240, SIO=423. Rock mix. Ads for "The Marketplace" & "Wintershield Glass." "Greg Dochran in the afternoon." Not long bcst; gone by 2307. (LATHEROW,VA) 7415, 10/9, 2244-2255*, SIO=534. Local bootleg of England's Red Rose Radio w/ rock mx. Annncd was Greg; ads for appliance store, decorator, etc. Abruptly off mid-song. PSE QSL. (RICHOLSON,VA) 7415.1, 10/9, 2251-2255*, SIO=444. 4 consecutive ads w/ prices in British pounds. Mention of Lancastershire, a decorator shop, Tracy's discount store w/ lawn furniture for "the long hot summer." Rock mx. No ID hrd during segment copied. Sudden QRT. Not same details as 6/4/89 relay of Red Rose Radio, so must be another tape. (ZELLER,OH)

United Blues Network (tentative): 7400.3, 10/1, 0302-0358+, SIO=322/222-. Long selections of piano bar-style blues mx by YL singer w/ piano. Live audience applauds occ. OM annncd said "This is United Blues Network" at 0308. At 0338, different OM said National Public Radio pgm & no duplication w/out artist's permission. Bad QRM de RPFM Portuguese Navy RTTY on 7398 made copy difficult. "United Blues Net" possibly an ID or maybe just artist or pgm name. PSE confirm ID & QSL. (ZELLER,OH)

United World Radio: 7415, 9/2, 0303-0320. IDed as UWR w/ Tagar Stonybrook addr. Free pennant for tape of bcst. (ROSS,ONT)

Voice of Bob: 26000, 10/14, 1642-1707. Usual Mondo Bizarro pgming. Songs "Bob, I'll Follow You Always" and "Waiting for the UFO" interspersed w/ much ranting about slack; QRM from lost CB types. Fair sig at tune-in but faded beginning at 1702; by 1707 only carrier remained. PSE QSL (or at least send money). (HELMS,CA)

Voice of Stench: 7415.5, 9/3, 2225-2239. Gave WV addr. Annncd as special marathon bcst from somewhere off the N Am coast. (ROSS,ONT) 7416, 9/23, 1904-1911*, SIO=332. Test bcst. Annncd QSL available for 3 1st class stamps to POB 628, Slanesville, WV 25444. Very poor audio. (RICHOLSON,VA)

Voice of Tomorrow: 15040, 9/23, 2303-2354. Super 15db sig. Rock mx at beginning. Usual pro-white commentary. (SACHS,IL) 15039.8, 9/23, 2349-0004, SIO=243. OM w/ talk on political parties. Hrd "Wall Street Shuffle." Requested donations to OR addr. Mentioned possible freqs of 1616, 6240, 7410 & 15040. Usual s/off w/ "Tomorrow Belongs To Me" w/ drum & wolf howl. (HAVRILKO,FL) 6239.6v, 9/24, 0108-0209*, SIO=555. Carrier on as early as 0101. Usual bigotry, venom, drums, wolf howls, etc. (RICHOLSON,VA) 6240, 9/24, *0112-0143 jammed, SIO=525. Exceptionally strong sig. Had Bob Dylan & Al Stewart mx. Annncd as "Volunteers in service of white civilization, the Voice of Tomorrow." Annncd w/ studios in Providence & xmtr in Baltimore. Interview segments. Jamming started at 0143. VOT still on at 0147, hrd during breaks in jammer songs. (WOOTEN,GA) 6240, 9/24, 0113+. Stn had to be using at least 1 kW. S-20+ sig. Had pgm sent in by listener abt "white Hispanics." Later in bcst, either a SS pirate or clandestine came over the top of them. As both stns were high power, they cancelled each other out!! SS stn still on after VOT left the air. (SACHS,IL) 6239.9, 9/24, 0121-0209*, SIO=454. Rock mx & OM IDs such as "Volunteers in the Service of White Civilization, this is the

V. of Tomorrow." Pgm said to be contributed by a listener. Talk abt racial identity of "white Hispanics." QRMd by Venceremos. (ZELLER,OH)

WBRI: 7476.5, 10/2, 0318-0347, SIO=323. Caribbean or high-life & other mx. Several IDs, e.g. "24 hour enrichment of your gray matter - WBRI." Momentarily off at 0339. After 0345 severe QRM de RTV Tunisienne on 7475. PSE QSL. (RICHOLSON,VA) 7480, 10/8, 0122, SIO=232. Rock & reggae mix. Addr of 1919 M Street NW, Washington, DC 20554. [Don't bother - this is the FCC HQ.] "Services brought to you by Interpid Bcsting." Blasted by "Burley Boy" & "Mayflower" testing on 7474 USB. (LATHEROW,VA) 7491.7, 10/8, 2126-2149*, SIO=333. "All the people of the world: You are being misled." Then African-like songs w/ one abt "Zimbabwe after the fight," the story of white horse & rider and death. IDed as "Armageddon Radio WBRI." Talk abt nuclear war. PSE QSL. (RICHOLSON,VA) 7480.9v, 10/9, 0040-0057, SIO=434. Typical WBRI reggae show. IDed as the HF Shortwave Interior Service, the unsanctioned illegal service of Intrepid Bcsting. Some QRM de military UTE. PSE QSL. (PEEBLES,OH) 7481v, 10/9, 0104-0146*, SIO=534. Requested rpts to addr in DC, which is the FCC headquarters. Pgm of songs & IDs. (RICHOLSON,VA) 7485, 10/9, 0324-0335, SIO=333. Reggae mx. Humorous reference to Bush being crack addict. Then hrd a Peter Lorre voice & pirate voice s/off w/ "OK maties, time to pull the plug." PSE QSL. (ALLINSON,NC) 7490, 10/9, 0335-0337*, SIO=423. Caught the end where Igor pulls the plug. Some RTTY QRM. (YODER,WV)

WBST: 7487, 10/11, 0356-0516, SIO=434. Clever, interesting, strange brew along lines of Byrne Leno "My Life in the Bush of Ghosts." Eerie, ethereal mx w/ relig collages mixed in. Requests for "love" offerings to DC maildrop. Talk abt "Trouble Doll." (ALLINSON,NC) 7488.2, 10/14, *0353-0458*. Excellent sig w/ no fading. Laughing IS into rock mx. QTH Salem, MA. Part of Lucifer Network. Great ads. Also said on 1620. DC maildrop. (SPOONER,MA) 7488, 10/14, 0402-0458*, SIO=444. Authorized by DCC, Devil's Children's Commission. Top-40 w/ occult themes. Sinister laughter. Well done show. WTNU (The Nation's Underground) op came on after & thanked WBST for bcst. (SMITH,NY) 7488, 10/14, 0411-0459*, SIO=333. First time for this one. Pgm heavy on evil, the devil, howling wolves, witches, etc. Hrd "Riders on the Storm" & some Fleetwood Mac. Some dialog sounded like tracks from horror movies. Enjoyable. (ROGOVICH,VA) 7488.0v, 10/15, 0300-0424, SIO=544. IS consisted of laughing tape loop. Pgm started 0308. Progressive mx. DJ voice sounded like it was processed through a harmonizer & difficult to understand. IDs "WBST - It's Hot" & "WBST brings out the beast in me." Mentioned Glenn Hauser & mentioned addr of POB 40054, Washington, DC 20016. (PEEBLES,OH) 7488, 10/15, 0306+. IS of eerie mechanical laughter. IDs were so bassy & echoed it made for almost impossible IDing. (SACHS,IL) 7488.3, 10/15, 0309-0425*. Good sig but storm QRM. Different show from previous evening. Great skits, esp L.A. Information where your soul will be repossessed. Excellent! (SPOONER,MA) 7487, 10/15, 0327-0510, SIO=222. Same pgm as 10/11 but much less readable. (ALLINSON,NC) 7488.8, 10/15, 0331-0424*, SIO=454. Entertaining pgm. Various rock incl David Bowie. Periodic remarks over mx w/ deep reverb vox. Abt 5 secs of old V of Laryngitis Glenn Hauser parody. Two OMs call up Los Angeles information operator for phone # of Satanic Grocery, but operator not cooperative. DC addr given. QSLs cost \$ 900. The FCC, Glenn Hauser, Your Mommy & Your Daddy can't keep the Beast away. Black YL preacher sells "Trouble Doll" icon for \$ 15. Halloween folk song w/ screaming. Laughing IS at QRT. Good sig & fine mod. (ZELLER,OH)

WHIP: 7395.5, 9/2, 0416-0450. OM DJ w/ Beaver Falls addr. "WHIP, the Voice of the Hipster." Trumpet & piano mx. Talked abt WENJ & WKZP. (ROSS,ONT)

WRNR: 6250, 9/29, 0113-0128*. ID as WRNR rock and roll. Played mostly top 40. Good sig. No QSL info hrd. PSE QSL. (SACHS,IL)

WTNU: 7416.7, 9/2, 0356-0358. USB bcst. Anncd as "Voice of the Graveyard." Test counts hrd. QSY to 7400 at 0405. Poor audio. Rock mx & OM DJ. Anncd as test of xmtr & modulation w/ 100 watts. PSE QSL. (ROSS,ONT) 7479 SSB & 7400 AM, 9/30, 0340-0403 & 0430+. New stn. Claimed to be their 1st int'l bcst. OM said pirates should not

use echo devices as it distorts ID; also said they could not afford one. Gave QSL info as : PRMS, Pirate Radio Mail Service, P. O. Box 6527, Baltimore, MD 21219. Pgm at first sounded live. 2nd bcst on at 0430 on 7400; exactly the same tape, but much weaker. (SACHS,IL)

Zodiac Radio: 7416, 9/20, 0250-0340. Radio Pamela rebcast. Abbott & Costello pgm. Wellsville NY addr. (PIERCE,CA) 7416, 9/27, 0216-0239*. Tangerine Radio rebcast. DXers Anonymous ad. Anncd closure of Hilo box. Interesting show. (PIERCE,CA) 7423, 10/9, 0209-0231. Radio USA rebcast. ACE plug. (PIERCE,CA)

ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD

Radio Stella: 6319.3, 10/8, -0155-0415-, SIO=222. Pgm of songs & mx w/ male annr speaking between virtually all songs. Enormous CW QRM all over this frequency area. Tentative ID at 0239-0240. (RICHOLSON,VA)

Weekend Music Radio: 15043, 9/24, 0014+. At first played collage of different 40's singles excerpts, then began usual bcsts of rock mx. (SACHS,IL) 15043, 9/24, 0030 & 0110-0115, SIO=131+. Very weak sig at 0030. Hrd better at 0110 w/ OM annr w/ EE accent reading reception rpts w/ one from WV. Pop mx hrd. Faded out by 0115. (HAVRILKO,FL) 6239.6, 10/8, 0624+, SIO=222. Read names of DXers who had written to them. (PYM,DC) 6240, 10/8, 0633-0740+, SIO=333. Anncd 2 test areas, one to N Am & one to New Zealand & Australia on 15043. Anncd 100 watts on 19m & 800 watts on 49 m. Said R. Caroline back on 558kHz. Great reception. (SMITH,NY)

UNIDENTIFIEDS

1619.9, 9/11, 0210. Barely discernable relig pgming. Beyond the limits of my eqmt due to fading. (SPOONER,MA)
1620, 10/9, 0149-0153, SIO=111. Barely made out singing. (RICHOLSON,VA)

3880, 10/22, 0335-0348+, SIO=322. Country album mx buried in ham QRM. (YODER,WV)

6240, 9/24, 0014-0045. Real odd mx. SS IDs sounding like La Luca Luca. Pgm sounded live. Hrd enough SS phrases to pick up the words "gay, crazy," etc. Lively jingles w/ OM & YL. Rock mx. Strange one! Pirate or clandestine? (SACHS,IL)

6240, 9/24, 2259-2300*. Soft rock mx. Dead air between mx. No talk hrd. (ROSS,ONT)

6240, 9/24, 2302-2309*, SIO=433. Newer Def Leppard song & YL country song. Gone w/ no ID. (YODER,WV)

7355, 10/6, 2352, SIO=444. Loud vibrating electronic noises... somebody testing or playing. (LATHEROW,VA)

7374, 10/7, 1620-1622*, SIO=454. Apparent test; rock mx w/ no ID or talk. (SMITH,NY)

7400, 10/1, 0500-0512*, SIO=333. Newer "guitar idol" mx. Only talk at end "...certainly hope that you... oh, baby... I gotta be careful that I ... we'll see you again ... SW radio ... 7400. PSE QSL or ID. (YODER,WV)

7400, 10/15, 0209-0217. Hrd Beatles & Stones mx but jammer w/ S-9 sig wiped it out for the most part. Sig very distorted. (SACHS,IL)

7410.3, 10/15, 0353-0359*. Rock mx. No annr hrd. Abruptly off the air & then back on for a few secs. (SPOONER,MA)

7415, 9/22, 2234-2253*, SIO=111. Barely audible mx w/ man's voice from 2245 until s/off. Followed by someone keying mike a few times from 2245-2246. (RICHOLSON,VA)

7415, 10/1, 2340, SIO=222. Stones mx. Also hrd "I Am the Walrus" & "All You Need is Love." Some CCR. Listened for 15 min & no ID or talk. Lost to 7410. (LATHEROW,VA)

7415.5, 10/8, *2129*2130*2134*, SIO=444. OM "Calling Radio Flatulence" 2 times then off; repeated at 2130 & 2134. (RICHOLSON,VA)

7415.5, 10/8, 2135. Very muddy man's voice "...can't stand it ... antenna..." (RICHOLSON,VA) *2137*2138*, SIO=333. Very muddy voice

"This is Radio ... from somewhere in North America." Again at 2138. Power on, then off. (RICHOLSON,VA)

7415.8, 10/14, 0309-0311*. Country/western mx. Played ad for 24 hour store. Abruptly off the air. Oh well, another UNID. (SPOONER,MA)

7417.5, 9/3, 0410-0415. Possible s/on @ 0410 w/ instrum. mx & OM DJ talk. Poor copy. Punk mx. Bad QSB & gone @ 0415. PSE QSL.

(ROSS,ONT)

7417.1, 10/8, 0217-0220*, SIO=343. Rock tune on and off in AM and then LSB. No talk or ID. (ZELLER,OH)

7424.8, 10/7, 0413-0424*, SIO=433+. 3 Beatles songs & other rock. Dead air. VFO drifting downward. No talk/ID. (ZELLER,OH)

7425, 10/7, 2054-2058*, 2125*, 2126*, SIO=142. Rock mx on & off. Talk at 2054, but hard to copy. Egmt test. PSE QSL. (YODER,WV)

7425, 10/9, 0358-0404, SIO=433. Beatles "Eight Days a Week" followed by football sounds like "ten-hut hike" etc. Then hrd "Words of Love" by Beatles. Clear sig. Disappeared suddenly. (ALLINSON,NC)

7442.2, 10/21, 2139-2142*, SIO=323. Possibly ECPR. Rock song & male anncr. Abrupt power off. (RICHOLSON,VA)

7445, 10/8, 2052-2056*, SIO=555. Possibly ECPR. One blues rock song w/ guitar solos. Killer sig. (YODER,WV)

7455, 10/8, 2048-2053, SIO=433. Strong sig w/ BB King-type mx. YM anncr mentioned "that's about all..." & xmtr out. (ALLINSON,NC)

7475.1, 10/8, 1802-1828*, SIO=212. Rock mx incl "Turn, Turn, Turn," w/ possibly male anncr. Don't think this was RTV Tunisienne which comes on later and is usually in Arabic. (RICHOLSON,VA)

7483.8, 10/9, 0329-0336*, SIO=434. Modern African-sounding mx. Closed w/ male anncr mentioning George Bush. "...our family to yours. Good night. Another boring radio show... OK mates. Get ready to pull the plug on me. One, two." PSE QSL. (RICHOLSON,VA)

7490, 10/15, 0450-0455. Hrd country & western mx. No ID. Lost sig after that. (SACHS,IL)

7492.2, 10/8, *2150*. Hrd xmtr being turned on and off; tapping on mike & then man's voice twice saying "Calling WBRI." (RICHOLSON,VA)

27504.7, 8/30, 2220-2226. Good sig w/ hillbilly/cajun fiddle mx & OM singing. PSE QSL. (ROSS,ONT)

27540.8, 10/22, 1645-1700+, SIO=322. Unusual log - a pirate packet net! Mostly FF text; some bi-lingual FF/EE and some EE only. Phony call signs like FRA3AB/FRA3AA/REV3AA/123PR. The EE part was commands to get into a packet BBS. Not military and of course no civilians are licensed for packet here. Definitely bootleg! (ZELLER,OH)

PSE QSL ADDRESSES

Gregg Allinson, 404 A Charlotte, Washington, NC 27889.

Richard D'Angelo, 2216 Burkey Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19610.

Robert Landau, 688 8th Street, Secaucus, NJ 07094-3018.

Rob Peebles, 3442 Durkin Cr., Dublin, OH 43017

Ira Richolson, 1600 S. Eads 1030 N, Arlington, VA 22202.

Robert Ross, Box 4373, Stn C, London, Ontario, Canada N5W 5J2.

D. Spooner, 148 South Street, Westboro, MA 01581.

Mark Pierce announces that the following drop is available to any Free Radio broadcasters that want to make arrangements to use it: P. O. Box 1087, Sun Valley, CA 91352. *****

Ira Richolson reports that he has two letters returned which were sent to mail drops. The Kingston NY addr previously anncd by R. Clandestine/PRN is having mail returned marked "Boxed closed, no order, return to sender." Also the Washington DC box used by WBRI

(POB 40554) has had mail returned marked "Return to sender, No longer at address" written in ink, without the usual USPO stamps. If anyone has better addresses on these stations, let Ira know. His address is shown in the PSE QSL section.*****

Ira also has received an ID of his UNID of 9/4/89. He thought the ID

included "RS---." After sending his rpt to the WV drop, he determined that it was R. Free Massachusetts. He reports it is one of the most "professional" QSL he had rcvd from a pirate. Thanks, Ira!*****

Ira has a couple of questions for the readers. Does anyone have a good address for WBRI (not including the Washington addr which is really the FCC HQ?) If so, please let him know. Also, does anyone have a current addr for R. Stella? The last addr he has is: 23 South Beauregard, Edinburgh EH12 5YR, Scotland.*****

George Zeller has IDed some of the UNIDs from October: 7415 by Arthur was R. Clandestine; 7415 by Latherow was #s stn; 7415 by Latherow was R. Clandestine; 7415 by Sachs was RFM; 7415.3 by Richolson was RFM; 7415.5 by Havrilko was RFM; 7415.8 by Richolson was R. Clandestine; 7416 by Richolson was R. Clandestine; 7416.2 by Richolson was CHGO; and 7417 by Zeller was R. USA. *****

Rob Peebles reports that the UNID on 26455 in the October bulletin is a licensed remote pickup frequency and not a pirate. WLW. *****

Cuban complaint leads to FCC bust of Alpha 66

By Don Bishop

P.O. Box 4075

Overland Park, KS 66204-0075

La Voz de Alpha 66, an anti-Castro "clandestine" shortwave broadcast station, fell to a U.S. government enforcement action initiated at the Cuban government's request.

"Our office was involved in action taken against La Voz de Alpha 66," said Robert C. McKinney, the engineer-in-charge at the FCC's Vero Beach, Florida, field office. "A lot of the high frequency monitoring net was involved in the action, in addition to mobile units we put on the scene. We had mobile units from several offices involved in the Alpha 66 proceeding."

Alpha 66 is off the air. U.S. marshals removed transmitting and associated audio equipment from Alpha 66's mobile broadcasting facility--a Ford van. According to John L. Theimer, engineer-in-charge at the FCC's Miami field office, the latest bust was at least the third FCC enforcement action against Alpha 66 since 1982.

Permanent Injunction

Because of the repeated violations, FCC headquarters used a "civil seizure" process that allows confiscating electronic equipment used by a violator. "We also applied for an injunction against Alpha 66 principals, the organization, its sympathizers and everybody else we could think of," Theimer said. The injunction, which has been made permanent, places its subjects under the risk of contempt of court citations if they engage in further unlicensed broadcasting.

Theimer said he was unsure whether the latest enforcement action would dissuade the passionate anti-Castro broadcasters of Alpha 66 and its leader, Diego Medina, from rebuilding the station. Medina was said to have been operating the station when it was shut down. Rumors are that he is acquiring replacement equipment.

Technical details

A Kenwood TS 430 amateur transceiver broadcast Alpha 66's final program. The transceiver output was amplified by surplus coastal radiotelephone station equipment. The amplifier's two 3-500Z power tubes produced an estimated 1,000 watts.

The transmitter fed an inverted V antenna strung from a 30-foot extension ladder permanently mounted atop the van. When the station operator reached a broadcasting site, he tipped the ladder vertically, extended its sections and strung the antenna to either side.

Theimer estimated the seized equipment's value at \$10,000. The van was returned to its owner. Certain agencies that enforce laws against illegal drug trade have authority to seize cars, homes and most any other property used in support of the illegal activity. But FCC authority is more limited, thus, only electronic equipment was seized.

"The broadcasts usually lasted a half-hour to an hour and a half," Theimer said. "Usually Alpha 66 broadcasts began at 9 p.m. Eastern time on Monday, Wednesday and Friday

nights." The broadcasts' regular pattern helped the FCC trace their source. "When we identify a pattern it helps, because we don't have time to spin our wheels."

During the bust, one person was operating the station. But Thelmer said engineers previously observed station operation by others, and that sometimes several people were in the van.

Thelmer described Alpha 66's modulation quality as "not terribly good, especially when he tried to play music on it."

Recorded programs were played on tape playback units in the van. Thelmer said his office had heard from another agency that the Alpha 66 organization has a recording studio at its headquarters in Miami.

Cuban complaint

Steps leading to the bust include a complaint to the FCC from the Cuban government, according to Robert C. McKinney, engineer-in-charge at the Vero Beach, FL, field office. He said the FCC is one of a few U.S. agencies permitted direct contact with the Cuban government; other agencies communicate with Cuba via the State Department.

"This group (Alpha 66) has been in operation a long time," McKinney said. "They have been shut down by us on at least one or two other occasions. They would be on the air for awhile, then we would take them off, and after awhile they would acquire new equipment and go back on the air."

Some unlicensed broadcasters activate their stations mostly for fun. The ACE calls such broadcasters "pirates." Politically motivated unlicensed broadcasts are called "clandestine." Alpha 66 falls into the "clandestine" category.

"Alpha 66 is a group with anti-Castro political motivation, and it broadcasts to support a cause," McKinney explained. "This kind of activity is not conducted as a lark, so it is not likely to be permanently discouraged by enforcement action. You take them off the air and they go out and acquire new equipment and get back on the air. Whether this most recent case will close Alpha 66 down is debatable. We'll only know that with hindsight, five years from now."

Penalties

What penalties are faced by those connected with Alpha 66 or any other unlicensed broadcaster are uncertain. Legal action might be taken against individuals or against the organization or both. Administrative sanctions may be applied or violators may face criminal prosecution. Federal authorities make such decisions on a case-by-case basis.

With La Voz de Alpha 66, which represented a repeat offense, the FCC asked the Justice Department to assist. "We got the U.S. attorney to issue warrants and the U.S. marshal served the warrants and seize equipment," McKinney said. "That is a much more effective method [than administrative sanctions] but it is time-consuming, expensive to the U.S. government and disruptive to FCC operations because for every hour we spend on a case like that there is an hour taken away from something else. It isn't as though we have a special team that just works on criminal prosecution. If you have two men who work on such a case there is someone else who is not getting work done that deserves to be done."

The political angle

"We make no value judgments on what Alpha 66 broadcasters say," McKinney continued.

"We're not looking at program content. They could be playing music or they could be telling people in Cuba to burn the sugar cane fields. Another unlicensed broadcast station could be playing music or spouting Nazi rhetoric. We're not looking at what they are saying. Unlicensed broadcasters are not allowed to be on the air and we treat them all the same."

The FCC official said the Justice Department has its hands full in south Florida. "With drug trafficking being what it is in south Florida and in the Miami area, to go in and get a U.S. attorney to shake loose enough time to take a radio station off the air is difficult--particularly when you have such high sentiment in Florida's Cuban community that broadcasters such as Alpha 66 are doing what they want them to do. There is a lot of public support for anti-Castro broadcasts. By the same token, we at the FCC have a job to do. We cannot exempt anyone because we happen to like what they're saying or not like what they're saying. If a station is illegal, it is illegal. We have an obligation under the law to do our job and that's what we'll have to do."

The Washington influence

McKinney said in handling the Alpha 66 case the FCC field office primarily worked with the Justice Department in Washington, DC. "In fact, if I am not mistaken a special U.S. attorney out of Washington handled the case rather than a U.S. attorney out of Miami. They are just so bogged down with the lack of manpower and so many cases, all things considered, what do you do? Do you go after someone who is caught with 200 pounds of cocaine or do you go after a someone who basically is not hurting anyone, broadcasting a radio signal? I can see their [the Florida U.S. attorneys'] point."

McKinney said that with many cases, generally, his office works in conjunction with FCC and Justice Department officials, U.S. attorneys and U.S. marshals in Washington to decide who will handle specific cases. Representatives of the Justice Department may decide to send employees from the capital, to send from one office to another someone who has time to take a case or to tell the local U.S. attorney, "We feel this is sufficient priority, you put some people on it."

With Alpha 66, McKinney stated the FCC received a complaint from Cuba that said, in so many words, "There is a station that is not authorized as being on this frequency. It is unlicensed. It is affecting Cuban radio waves. What are you going to do about it?"

Washington direction

The Alpha 66 case was handled locally by FCC field offices under direction from Washington. "Headquarters was involved in every aspect," McKinney explained, "because we have a lot of cases that we take directly to Cuba. The FCC is one of the few agencies that does not go through the State department. We have a particular mechanism whereby we go directly to our counterparts or contacts in Cuba. From our side, most of our inquiries involve Cuban stations that should not be on a particular frequency or that are somewhat off-frequency."

Rather than go through a long, circuitous route that might take months to pass through different governmental bureaucratic steps, FCC officials make direct contact with Cuban officials. "In most cases we have had good results with getting off-frequency broadcasts that are interfering with U.S. broadcasts, off the air in sometimes a matter of a day or two with just a phone call," McKinney said.

"If we're trying to work together like that, we have our responsibilities also. If they're complaining about a transmission or broadcast that we didn't know about-- We don't routinely tune up and down the dial, looking for unlicensed broadcasts. If a representative of a foreign government says: "You have this station on this frequency; it's been there for two

months; when are you guys going to do something about it?" we have to at that point obviously look at what is a legitimate complaint by another country, whether it happens to be the Cubans or Canadians or Mexicans or whether we consider them friend or foe."

6.666 MHz

It is doubtful that the frequency used by Alpha 66, 6.666 MHz, is used by any Cuban service. The Cuban government apparently was aware of an anti-Castro program broadcast from the United States on an unlicensed station using a frequency not assigned for broadcast service. "The Cubans don't have to be using the frequency to justify a request for FCC action," McKinney said. "The station doesn't have to be causing interference. If it is unauthorized, it is unauthorized, whether or not it causes interference to an authorized service. The frequency 6.666 MHz is assigned to the aviation service. Whether Alpha 66 actually caused interference to an aviation communication, I do not know."

Most interference complaints the FCC forwards to the Cuban government involve U.S. broadcast stations. FCC field offices often receive calls from AM broadcast station engineers in the Miami market. The engineers report interference from Cuban stations that share their frequencies. When Cuban stations' carrier frequencies drift slightly, the difference causes a heterodyne, which is a tone that may range from a low-frequency buzz to a whistle.

When Cuban and American stations sharing a dial position use nearly identical carrier frequencies within a few hertz of one another, no heterodyne interference results.

American listeners

McKinney said American radio listeners have less tolerance for degraded broadcast service, compared to listeners in other countries. "You go to many parts of the world and it is amazing what audiences are willing to listen to. Garbage, in our terms," McKinney said, referring to the interference level plaguing many domestic broadcast services in foreign countries.

"At almost any time of day in our broadcast bands, listeners hear no interference, no heterodynes. They don't hear 15 stations on the same frequency. We're spoiled. We're used to turning on the TV and seeing a clear picture. You turn on your AM or FM radio and you don't want to hear five stations on the same channel or four or five different languages on the same channel. In this country, if you hear that, you turn off the channel. You don't complain about it, you find something else to listen to."

"Broadcasters in this country know that. They have a market and their listeners and they have to keep them happy because if they get too used to turning off the channel they may not come back."

W A N T A D S

Ads from A*C*E members will be printed on a space available basis. Your items to sell, trade or buy should be sent to A*C*E HQ with your name address or phone number included with each ad. Sorry, but the A*C*E cannot offer mail forwarding services for ads.

WANTED: Inexpensive, working transmitters. Please contact WXZR at POB 628, Slanesville, WV 25444 with details.

WANTED: A good fairly cheap general coverage receiver in working condition. Especially interested in Yaesu FRG-7, Hammurlund, Collins, etc... Andrew Yoder, POB 628, Slanesville, WV. 25444.

WANTED: Your add for the next issue. Send copy to A*C*E, POB 11201, Shawnee Mission, KS. 66207

Harry L. Helms AA6FW
7445 Andasol St.
San Diego, CA 92126

COVERT CORNER

Not a whole lot going on this month, folks. Remember, HM gets all the numbers-related material now. Some numbers reports arrived this past month and I've forwarded them on to HM.

A couple of people have asked what will become of this column now that HM is handling numbers. *Relax, folks.* There's still plenty of weirdness out there in radioland (and, no, I don't mean just the fiction in *Monitoring Times* or loggings in the ASWLC bulletin) to keep me gainfully occupied and out of serious trouble. Take single-letter beacons, for example.

This past month brought another letter from George Zeller. Apparently October 9 was a slow day for George, as he spent a couple of hours tracking down single-letter beacons. Here's what he heard in a frequency/time/letter format:

7425/2215/U; 10216/2245/U; 15704.5/2330/U; 12327.5/2330/U; 12184.5/2330/U; 9313.5/2330/U; 9056.5/2330/U; 8669.5/2330/U; 8135.5/2330/U; 8077.5/2335/U; 6244.5/2335/U; 10643.5/2340/S; 13635.5/2340/S; 6801/2345/S; 18347.5/2340/K; 12149.5/2340/K; 7904.5/2340/K.

George notes that our old friend Herr Klingenfuss lists all the U beacons as being at Murmansk, S at Arkhangelsk, and K as Khabarovsk. George then asks, "How does Klingenfuss know these QTHs?"

Good question, George. I don't have a clue where he gets those QTHs from. I'll just note that some beacons are heard on times and frequencies which make it highly unlikely they all are located where Klingenfuss says, unless some unusual propagation path (through the center of the Earth??) is involved. Further, a W beacon operating in the 80-meter ham band was definitely traced to Cuba in the mid-1970s by the FCC. It likely that *anywhere* there's a Soviet naval facility that there's a single-letter beacon transmitter nearby. Some *are* probably are Murmansk or Khabarovsk, but not all.

Dave White, a frequent contributor to my *Umbra et Lux* newsletter, is a regular monitor of these. Dave spends hours in continuous monitoring of these, and discovers things that less patient monitors (such as yours truly) overlook. Dave has noted that these "beacons" do break for message groups on what seems to be a semi-regular basis. For example, on September 7, Dave observed that all the U beacons he could hear sent three five-digit blocks repeated seven times at 1800 and 1900. He noted the same thing at 1558 on 9/8 and at 1455 on 9/9. On 9/10, he heard three five-digit blocks repeated six times at 1500 and seven times at 1957. Finally, Dave noted three five-digit blocks repeated seven times at 1457 on 9/12. These loggings are in agreement with others Dave has made which indicate that these beacons break for messages near the hour and that all beacons of a certain letter send the same messages in parallel.

Dave, in fact, dislikes the term "beacon" when applied to these stations. He wrote, "Interceptors who continue to call these signals 'beacons' are not paying attention to the above signals; apparently [they are] tuning across them and logging." He continues, "My opinion is this is an enormous waste of money and equipment. I would also add that this is probably a computerized network and has several strategic control points."

So how about it, campers?? Why not try listening to some of these beacons near the hour to see if they break for a message??

Ira Martin of CA wrote this month to report reception of a "time clicking" on 9260. Ira said there was a high-pitched humming which rose and fell in intensity even though the clicking maintained the same level. Ira didn't mention a time although I assume it was in the evening hours Pacific time. Are Ira and I the only ones running across these weirdo time signals??

The November *Umbra et Lux* is available from me for a large SASE. This one's a corker, with a major revelation about the numbers stations mystery by Havana Moon!!! And Don Schimmel's column will deal with those raspy "eleven dot, one dash" beacons like the one you can hear on 4718. Great stuff and it's still free!!! (A public service I must perform as part of the sentence I received as a result of my corrupt television ministry....)

Hope you autumn's going well. Lobster season is open, and it's me and them in a battle to the death at La Jolla Shores and Windandsea Beach! Report!!!

Harry

Veried Response

John T. Arthur, proprietor
RD #1, Box 15A
Belfast, NY 14711

...with a little help from my friends and Staff Reporters Mark Pierce and Bud Wooten. VR is electronically transmitted to A*C*E Hdq on or before the 24th of each month. Please send your input and comments to the above address or leave them in the [P]ersonal Mail section of the ANARC TBBS prior to the 18th. Your active participation in the form of reports, suggestions or constructive criticism is solicited.

"There is no subjugation so perfect as that which keeps the appearance of freedom, for in that way one captures volition itself."

--Jean-Jacques Rousseau

What's News:
the media report

This month marks seven full years of Veried Response in the pages of The ACE. It's been a pleasure and a privilege to have your attention and support for this long. For those who may wonder, I'm a Charter Member of ACE - I came on board with the sample issue, Vol 1 #1, in March of 1982. My fascination and interest with Free Radio goes back much farther than that, however; back to about 1964, when I started messing around with a phono oscillator and a 100-foot longwire to see how far I could cover. I'm now 44, have been in the radio hobby since early 1957, and have about four years behind the microphone, too. But enough about me. We (Hunton Peck, R. A. Popoki, Staff Reporters and myself) look forward to many more years of informing you, and we hope to have your continuing support. Aloha...

Looking for a good source for counterculture books? One excellent source is Loompanics Unlimited, PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368. They publish a main catalog of over 200 pages each year, with quarterly supplements, covering the gamut from The Underground Economy to Heresy/Wierd Ideas and Self Publishing; truly a total range of interests. There's even a book titled: "Job Opportunities In The Black Market" for those tired of working 80 hours per week to support the government! You owe it to yourself to write to Michael Hoy and ask for a catalog - send a dollar to defray postal costs. [via Bud Wooten]

Another source is KYFHOtech, PO Box 14603, Madison, WI 53714. Their book list is a bit shorter but their prices are a bit lower, too. The new, 1990 catalog is now available by request. [direct]

For some technical reading, Universal SW Radio is having their Fall Book Bonanza, featuring discounts on a good many specialty books. The flyer also lists several of their world-class receivers, including the Icom R9000, discounted to only US\$4795 (list is US\$5459). For your copy of the flyer, write: Universal SW Radio, 1280 Aida Drive, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068, ATTN: Fred Osterman. If you'd like their complete catalog, enclose one US dollar. [direct]

More creative reading is available from the Little Free Press. Ernest Mann strikes again, propounding his "priceless economic system" and offering his pamphlets for one lonely 25-cent stamp and the promise that you'll make two copies and pass them along. Although he tends to get sidetracked onto tangents, his leaflets are thought-provoking. Send a stamp to: Little Free Press, 2714 1st Ave S., Minneapolis, MN 55408. [direct]

Last month we told you about Free Air!. Well, Derby put us onto another publication you might be interested in: Radiogram. This zine wants to delve into the theory and practice of both commercial and non-commercial radio, in an attempt to better understand what comes out of the speaker. The writer, Eli Messenger, has had many years in alternative radio and displays a good understanding of the "biz". The initial newsetter, Vol 0 No 0, sets out a whole bunch of questions that he'd like help exploring - this is to be an interactive zine.

For your copy, send a #10 SASE to: Doghouse Press, PO Box 20335, San Jose, CA 95160. With the recent earthquake, there could be a slight delay, so be patient. [from Derby Luncheon, via Bud Wooten]

As either a serious listener or a pirate Operator, you're bound to be interested in improving your antenna system. A publication that can help is AntenneX. Publishing monthly since November 1988, this 'zine covers ONLY antennas and transmission lines, and does it in detail. A few of the topics covered in the last year include: Sound Ground, A Lightning Resistant Antenna, No Tuner Antenna System, and The Half Rhombic Antenna. Regular subscription rate is \$23.40 per year, but you can take advantage of a discount rate of just \$15.97 if you act now. Write to: AntenneX, 4639 Corona, Suite 12, Corpus Christi, TX 78411. [direct]

support your club...say you read it in The ACE

More Tips for Broadcasters

-or-

how to make your studio convenient

A couple months ago we ran an article about studio technique, or how to make good use of a studio. Since many of our readers have never seen a broadcasting studio, perhaps a few suggestions for layout are in order. You don't need a large room to make a truly useful studio, although sometimes it helps, as in the case of live broadcasts where access to a large record library is needed. Most Operators, however, can make do adequately with a small closet or just a portion of an available room.

Try to pick an area that's as quiet as possible, away from noisy appliances and fans, and as far from a roadway as possible. Get a large table to hold the equipment and, if you can, a small swivel chair for easy access. If you're running turntables you'll also want one or more smaller tables to hold them. Arrange the furniture in the shape of a wide-mouthed "U", with the large table as the bottom piece and the smaller table(s) on the sides. Allow room to get behind the table to connect cables, and don't forget an outlet strip or two so you can plug everything in! For neatness, the outlets can be mounted up under the table; just be sure you can reach them without becoming a contortionist.

The mixer should be directly in front of the announcer for convenient adjustment of levels. You may want to raise the rear of the mixer for better viewing angle of the VU meters. The microphone should also be directly in front of the announcer, but it is best to suspend it, or use a boom stand, so you don't have to work around a desk stand - the odds are good you'll bump into the stand and create extra noise that way.

If you're using only tape decks, they can be arranged behind or above the mixer, or stacked at either side for easy access. You may need to glue down some scrap wood pieces to keep the decks from sliding as you punch the buttons. In this scenario, the side table(s) give you someplace to hold tape boxes, scripts, etc.

If you use records, place a turntable on each side table, putting TT#1 on your left and TT#2 on your right. You can place them both on one side (or the other) if you'd rather, but be sure to mark them as connected to avoid getting mixed up. Be sure to level the turntables to avoid having the stylus slide across the records - use a builder's level on the platter, not on the base, and shim as necessary.

If you're going whole-hog with your studio and you're using the Radio Shack 32-1100A mixer, you'll quickly run out of inputs. As mentioned two months ago, that mixer has two mic, two turntable and one tape inputs (or three tape inputs). If you happen to want to run more sources than that, the solution is simple. RS also sells a 2-pole, 6-position rotary switch (#275-1386, \$1.39) which can be used as a source select switch. Get some shielded audio cable and a small metal box large enough to contain the switch. Run the "hot" (inner) conductors of the audio lines to the rotary switch (one wafer will be 'right' channel, the other will be 'left'), and connect the output to the common connectors - tie all shields together. If you do this on all inputs except the mic input, you can potentially have 18 different sources available through your three channels. Talk about flexibility! Plug the switches into the Ceramic inputs if you're

running tape decks.

If you happen to be running Magnetic cartridges, you'll find the level awfully low when connected thru the Ceramic input. Not to worry. Simply go back to Radio Crap, get the #42-2109 phono pre-amp and connect it between the turntable and the switch-box. Voila! You're back in biz.

For best sound, we recommend dynamic or condenser mics. If you're running FM, go with the condensers. They do take batteries and they are physically sensitive (don't tap on them!), but they do sound better. For SW use, common, cheap dynamic mics are fine. We don't recommend crystal mics unless you want to connect one direct to the transmitter, without the benefit of a mixer.

For decent, inexpensive tape decks, the RS SCP-31 (#14-647, \$49.95) or the older model SCP-30 is a very adequate player. There are no frills, bells or whistles to get in the way and the sound is good. Somewhere you will need a recorder, however, and we recommend the best one you can afford. It wouldn't hurt to suggest one as an Xmas present, either.

There are many turntables available in all sizes, shapes and styles. See what you can find second-hand to save money. More Free Radio stations are switching over to CDs, and I believe most CD players will match the Magnetic cartridge inputs on the mixer.

When wiring the studio, keep all audio leads together and as far from power cords as feasible. Bundle the power cords together and use some twist-ties or cable-ties to keep them away from the audio leads. This will reduce AC hum pick-up. At the very least, do not let the different cables run parallel to each other; cross 'em at right angles when necessary.

If you follow these tips, you should have a very flexible, good sounding studio. If you have more questions about details, feel free to write to the address at the beginning of this column. This info is presented strictly for information value to our readers and should not be misconstrued to indicate that either The ACE or this writer advocate or condone any illegal activity.

Off the Wall....
the rumor center

A letter from Weekend Music Radio mentions that they have used 13720 on occasions when WRNO is not there. Has anybody heard this outlet yet?..

Hunton Peck sent a card from Sonoma Beach, Hawai'i, to say that the water's warm, the beach is black, the sun is hot, and he thinks he'll stay there for a while longer - hasn't quite finished his tan yet. He did ask if California was still there (yes) and how I liked the early snow in upstate New York (I didn't). He also says that he's already working on next April's column, so stick around for that...

WBRI, also known as White Boy Research Institute, is no longer using the Washington, DC, maildrop and has not announced a valid address so far. Be advised that the 1919 M St, NW, address heard recently is NOT a maildrop - it's the FCC Main Office. Rotten humor. It's quite possible that this is not the original station...

The Fantasy Broadcasting Station notifies us that their 12 meter outlet is still in operation, but has moved to 26636 kHz, rather than the 26610 mentioned in a recent column. Broadcasts are few and far between from this one, but it's good to know that they're still out there. The FM outlet, FNTC, is temporarily off the air. Magic Man is trying to boost power on the SW station, but finances are poor at the moment and he'd appreciate donations. Anyone got a spare Viking they could ship?..

Word from Phil Muzik, of KNBS, is that the recent antenna projects are finished and that the station planned on doing some testing and relaying over the Halloween week. Frequencies in use were to be 7410, 7435 and 15015, among others. Did anyone hear 'em?..

WTNU and East Coast Pirate Radio are both using the new Baltimore 'drop, Box 6527, mentioned in last month's column. Be sure to enclose adequate postage, as always. ECPR needs to do some technical work to make their mic understandable - or they should run pre-recorded tapes exclusively...

continued to page 27

Your loggings and information on clandestine radio stations are always very welcome for this column. You can mail information direct to your editor at 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111. Or you can call (216) 941-3366 anytime, or else (216) 696-9077 between 1300-2145 UTC.

RADIO VENCEREMOS AND ITS JAMMERS SHIFT SWBC FREQUENCIES

In late September, the anti-El Salvador government clandestine Radio Venceremos moved its 6 MHz frequency for the first time in many years. It traditionally had operated on variable frequencies around 6550 KHz, jumping around every few minutes in a cat-and-mouse game with its jammers. It now operates on variable frequencies +/- 60 KHz or so around 6300 KHz. We have a flood of Venceremos logs this month that seem to pinpoint the date of this frequency shift to sometime on (or slightly before) September 24. The logs, from Bob Ross (Ontario), Vince Havrilko (Florida), Bob Brown (Pennsylvania), Steve Forrest (Ohio), and George Zeller (Ohio), include:

6239.5v (jumping to 6244.7, etc.), 0023-0057+, 9-24-89 (Zeller); 6239.6v (jumping to 6254.6, 6238, 6259.6, etc.), 0023-0224+, 9-24-89 (Havrilko); 6240, 0153-0216+, 9-25-89 (Ross); 6239.8, 0046-0050*, 9-25-89 (Havrilko); similar but reported VIA telephone as UNID (Brown); 6290v, 0250-0313+, 10-8-89 (Zeller); and 6305v, 0230, 10-8-89 (Forrest VIA telephone and also the ANARC 7240 net). All of these logs had the usual program details, with OM/YL shrill anti-El Salvador and anti-USA government talks, folk songs, folk anthems, and some pop/rock music.

Bob Ross also logged them on 6460 KHz on August 28 from 0236-0250. This was clearly before the date of the frequency shift. His copied ID was "Esta es Radio Venceremos, voz oficial de FMLN."

The typical confusing mess of "black" phony Venceremos clones and rock music jammers accompanies the regular Radio Venceremos. Bob Ross' 9-25-89 log on 6240 KHz might have been the "black" Venceremos, since he heard lots of pop music, dead air, and some shouted Radio Venceremos ID's. The real station is always well produced, with little (if any) dead air. Vince Havrilko heard the same "black" station on 9-24-89 using 6240 KHz, with mellow latin popular music and an OM/YL Venceremos ID at 0255, followed by the "Venceremos, Venceremos" anthem and a QRT at 0257*. Vince heard this station on simultaneously (but not in parallel) with Vince's regular Venceremos log listed above, and his 6240 station therefore seems to have been the "black" phony clone.

In addition, we are hearing what seems to be at least two different pure music stations that function as jammers to Venceremos. (The jamming is passive and is not literally effective). I heard one with pop music on September 24 using 6240 KHz at 0035 UTC, in A3H mode with USB and a reduced carrier. This station was on and off the air until 0155* UTC, thus interfering with the Voice of Tomorrow on 6239.9 KHz at the time (see A*C*E Dialogs this month). Vince Havrilko reports the same UNID jammer later that day from 2255-2308 on 6240 KHz, playing Phil Collins, Def Leppard, and Fleetwood Mac rock music. I also heard two rock music jammers of Venceremos on October 8, one using 6306 KHz in USB, and another simultaneously around 0100 UTC on 6300 KHz in the AM mode. These music jammers sound just like hobby pirates who are testing, with continual music and no ID's.

All of this Venceremos activity is fascinating, and it is audible virtually daily. It certainly has changed the evening nature of signals in the 49 meter pirate band.

FREE RADIO ONE

Free Radio One continues to be the most active North American shortwave pirate station that is on the air today. It seems clear that like the Voice of Tomorrow, this is actually a semi-clandestine station, rather than a hobby pirate. My daytime logging of them on 4005 KHz (see this month's A*C*E Dialogs) demonstrates that at least one of their transmitter QTH's is within 300 miles or so of Cleveland. Signals on 80 meters do not propagate any farther than that at local noon.

I received a copy of a three page "Your Link" newsletter from the station. Though undated, the newsletter claims to be a monthly publication. It contains one page of station information, a one page xerox of a reception report that was received from a listener with appreciative comments on the station's programming, and a one page reprint of Free Radio One logs that were printed in the July 1989 issue of A*C*E.

The station information section of the newsletter sheds only a small amount of light on the Free Radio One operation. Dr. David Richardson has been joined by newscaster Seymour Roth on the Free Radio One staff. They say that two transmitter sites are operational on 7415/4005 KHz, with 48 additional transmitters planned for the future. They use 7415 KHz because of its status as a traditional pirate frequency. The station interval signal is supposed to be a series of V's in CW transmitted before sign-on. (I have never heard this).

Their station philosophy paragraph is worth a verbatim quote: "Our philosophy is to provide urgently needed alternate radio communications and news that otherwise is not available via the standard radio and television media. Free Radio One believes that the current political status in the United States is rapidly approaching the level of a communist state. As such underground communications is of utmost importance." (sic, no typos here).

The quoted paragraph is additional evidence that Free Radio one is as much a clandestine broadcaster as it is a pirate, particularly given its relatively frequent transmissions during the last few months.

RADIO PATRIA LIBRE

This fascinating anti-Colombian government station is still one the air, courtesy of the ELN left wing opposition forces in Colombia. Bob Ross just caught the end of their transmission on September 3 on 6758 KHz from 0056-0057* UTC. Over a patriotic song, the OM/YL sign-off ID was "Radio Patria Libre, La Voz de Colombia." Bob heard a good signal from them. I also copied the station with a good signal on October 2 from *0039-0121* UTC using 6760 KHz. (The frequency is slightly variable from night to night, but does not jump around during the transmission on a single day). Their sign-on ID was "Radio Patria Libre, una voz de la Nueva Colombia." The good signals from Radio Patria Libre in both Ohio and Ontario suggest that the station's current transmitter probably operates somewhere in the 1-5 KW power range.

This station still announces no address during their programs. Gerry Dexter, in his October 1989 Clandestine Confidential newsletter, says "We have been unsuccessful in finding any kind of an address for the ELN or for the station." Bummer! Information on Gerry's valuable bi-monthly newsletter is (as always) available from him at RR4, Box 110, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin 53147.

LA VOZ DE ALPHA 66

Kirk Baxter of Kansas informs me that very detailed information on the operation and 1989 bust of this Florida-based anti-Castro station has been forwarded to A*C*E headquarters. You should look for this important article elsewhere in this November issue of the A*C*E, or possibly in another issue of the A*C*E in the very near future. Dexter's October 1989 CCN quotes The Intelligence Newsletter to the effect that Alpha 66 "must have had highly placed patrons in the Reagan White House" that prevented busts by the FCC, and that it had ignored unspecified warnings after Bush took office to stop broadcasting.

REVIEW OF SOLEY/NICHOLS CLANDESTINE BOOK

A*C*E member Mark Pierce of California has found a review of the book Clandestine Radio Broadcasting: A Study of Revolutionary and Counterrevolutionary Electronic Communication, by Lawrence C. Soley and John S. Nichols. The book review was by Donald R. Browne, and is found on pp. 139-142 of the Summer 1988 issue of the Journal of Communication. Mark says that the review was favorable. I still have not seen a copy of this book, or a copy of the review. The book is very expensive, and the Cleveland Public Library has not yet added a copy to its collection. But, I understand that Soley and Nichols did a very fine job with this well-researched book. We have mentioned the book in prior Clandestine Profile columns, and some of Soley's writings have previously appeared in the A*C*E. Mark and I will try and get more information on this book and the new review for next month's column.

Mark also points out that an article on Bolivian pirate radio appeared in the February 1989 issue of The Progressive. The article was titled, "Tin Miners' Radio on the Ropes," by Jane Slaughter. Has anybody seen a copy of this article?

VINCE HAVRILKO CENTRAL AMERICAN CLANDESTINE STATION LOGS

Vince continues his regular monitoring of the better heard Central American and Caribbean clandestine stations. Radio Quince de Septiembre, the Contras' anti-Sandinista station that still broadcasts to Nicaragua, came in on September 22 on 6214.4 KHz from 2248-2314+ UTC. Vince noted its usual anti-Ortega programming, and he says that he heard one possible "Radio Liberacion" ID at 2250 UTC. (The other ID's that he heard were all Quince). Interestingly, Vince noted only a SIO=132 signal quality at 2248 from his QTH in Florida. By 2252, the signal got significantly stronger. This seems consistent with a continued Central America transmitter QTH, very probably in Honduras, as has been previously speculated many times.

Vince also hears the anti-Castro stations as usual. Radio Caiman blasted in at 0130 UTC using 9965 KHz on September 25. On September 23, Vince also heard this station at 1600 UTC (local late morning EST) with a weaker SIO=243 signal. This latter log is interesting. If Vince can hear them near his local noon on 31 meters, the station must be using a

HAVANA MOON



HAVANA MOON
117 W. Harrison Building
6th Floor, Suite H-319
Chicago, IL 60605

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Involuntary,
I may live on
In the passing world,
Never forgetting
This midnight moon.
-- Sanjo

=====

My thoughts are with ACE readers from California at this very difficult time. Having once lived, worked and played in San Francisco, Santa Cruz, Napa, Sonoma, Santa Rosa and other Northern California communities, I feel a strong sense of concern for their residents. My love affair with the Bay Area has been long and enduring.

I am most pleased to report that Portal Communications of Cupertino is very much alive and well, in spite of the devastating earthquake. My association with Portal and construction of "Havana Moon's Los Numeros On-Line" continue.

ACE readers who would like to receive information on the Portal System and "Los Numeros On-Line" can call Carol at 408-973-9111 or drop her a line at:

Portal Communications Company
Department P
10385 Cherry Tree Lane
Cupertino, CA 95014

tell her HM sent you, and you don't even need to include an SASE!

Two new and prestigious tenants of "Los Numeros On-Line" include Dr. John Santosuosso with "Political Ponderings", a column which focuses on the politics behind shortwave broadcasting, and Dr. Eli Messinger, with "The Radiogram." Welcome aboard, Gentlemen!

And don't be surprised to see some ACE Editors on-line with Havana Moon y Amigas!

The response from ACE readers continues to be TREMENDOUS!! A portion of a particularly interesting letter from Ira Martin follows:

"There are some questions that I would like answered. This is only reasonable, as ACE Members are sending reports to you and Harry Helms. The first question has to do with evidence and assertions. What does gathering frequencies, times and so on really do to prove anything? Assertions must be made with firm evidence, but since numbers are going out on a one way trip, and no one is responding to them, not that we can pick up, and as of yet, no code has been broken, then you may see the point of the question as it relates to evidence: a directory listing of broadcasts, without other supporting information, is only a directory of broadcasts.

"The second question has to do with the use of one-time pads. Are all the numbers stations using them? Is anyone following the addresses and tallying the number of times the same number groups

are being used - which would indicate that an address is receiving number groups made up off of the same code. If repetition of number groups is recurring in transmissions to an address, then it might be worth tracking and recording this address's messages. (This is different, of course, from the same message being retransmitted to the same agent. If different messages use some of the same number groups, a broadcast pattern is being established).

"The third question is less involved. Why might a numbers broadcast be made over several times over a period of up to two months?

"In spite of my questions, I am not a pessimist about ACE, or the gathering of data. Data and its interpretation are the meat and potatoes of history. I find the pursuit of the answer very interesting and will continue to send in reception reports. One point worth making is, are we looking for the correct answers? If we believe that we will find something, then we shape our interpretation of the evidence to shape our beliefs; consequently, I would ask, are we asking the right question of the information? This is no exercise in philosophy, but rather a pragmatic question. Evidence must be interpreted; no evidence ever speaks for itself - the viewer must absorb it and come to his own conclusions. Are we asking the right questions of the evidence being gathered by ACE Members, or are other explanations supportable?"

Your questions are well taken, Ira, and in a future issue I will respond to each of them. In other areas, I will respond to you personally. ACE readers are encouraged to submit letters of the above nature - and always feel free to disagree!

As Ira points out, since my mailing address for UeL and ACE are the same, much confusion has resulted. In an effort to alleviate this situation, I would ask that respondents indicate on the outside of the envelope either "UeL" or "ACE". Hopefully, this will help to eliminate some of the confusion that now exists.

I would also ask that numbers intercepts and numbers-related material be sent to me, while information about other types of transmissions, ie. KKN39-types, be sent to Harry Helms. There is, however, one exception - that being the frequency of 8918 kHz. Both Harry and I are interested in knowing what you might be hearing on this frequency - be it a numbers station or whatever. More details in a later issue!

AND NOW . . .

6785 kHz 0505 YL AM 5-D SS HH/CA
(This signal was a killer - peaking at +40 dB over S9 with occasional deep skywave fades (much like a clear-channel broadcast band station). The audio, however, was muffled; it reminded me of an FM signal tuned off the center frequency.)

6830 kHz 0513 YL AM 5-D SS IM/CA
(each group repeated twice)

6842 kHz 2335 YL AM 3-D EE ZE/MO
7412 0543 YL AM HH/CA
(Unidentified language (sounded Slavic) while reading what I assume were number groups in blocks of four or five (hard to tell!) Fluttery skywave signal, peaking S7 to S9, but low, mushy audio.)

7437 kHz 0607 OM AM 5-D SS MP/CA
7480 0500 YL AM 5-D SS IM/CA
7845 0503 YL AM 5-D SS HH/CA
7888 0505 YL AM 5-D SS JV/CA
8060 0600 YL AM 5-D SS IM/CA
8065 0813 YL AM 4-D SS KH/AZ
8855 0414 YL AM 5-D SS IM/CA
9069 0512 YL AM 5-D EE JV/CA

(sounded like she went to three digits, then back to five).

9274 kHz	1530	YL	AM	4-D	EE	JV/CA
10665	2245	YL	AM	4-D	SS	GZ/OH

CONTRIBUTORS CORNER

IM - Ira Martin, HH - Harry Helms, JV - Jim Vickonoff, GZ - George Zeller, ZE - Zel Eaton, KH - Kevin Henderson, MP - Mark Pierce.

HAVANA MOON's COSMIC SPOTLIGHT

This month's Cosmic Spotlight shines on Jim Vickonoff, of San Jose, CA. Jim, being the first to respond to the Havana Moon FidoNet E-Mail address, will receive a copy of "Los Numeros: The Numbers Stations Log" compliments of Tiare Publications.

Jim works in the electronics/computer field in the Silicon Valley. His main workhorse is an ICOM R71A, controlled via a PC using Datacom International software and hardware. He uses two forty foot longwires connected via an antenna tuner.

Many thanks for your excellent E-Mail report, Jim. Others are invited to follow in Jim's footsteps and to direct comments, intercepts or related material via the following E-Mail addresses on the Internet:

sun!portal!cup.portal.com!havanamoon
or
havanamoon@cup.portal.com

or at 1:280/3 - the ANARC BBS - on the FidoNet.

And to Ira Martin, also of San Jose, who put HM on a guilt trip for my awarding him a supply of SASEs, goes a Beach Boys tape! And Ira, you might want to put one of those SASEs to good use by requesting a copy of Dr. Eli Messinger's Radiogram, available through the following address:

The Radiogram
Doghouse Press
PO Box 20335
San Jose, CA 95160

Kevin Henderson of Tucson, AZ is the winner of a Fleetwood Mac tape, compliments of Havana Moon's Los Numeros.

Los Numeros has a real BIGGIE to give away next month - to a winner who will be selected at random - an OFFICIAL Batman wristwatch - sure to be the very latest in recognition symbols (IF worn on the left wrist with the face facing the body). CIA - please take note and extend all courtesies.

HAVANA MOON RECOMMENDS:

"In October 1967, John Walker, an officer in the US Navy, strolled into the Soviet Embassy in Washington DC, and said, "I want to sell you top secrets."

Now in paperback, Pete Earley's "Family of Spies" (Bantam Books) now available at your local news stand or bookstore for only \$4.95.

For a catalog of interesting and difficult to locate intelligence publications, send your name and address to:

University Publications of America
44 North Market Street
Frederick, MD 21701

or you can call them at 301-694-0100. Titles include "Enigma: How the German Machine Cipher Was Broken, and How it Was Read By the Allies in World War II" by Wladyslaw Kozaczuk; edited and translated by Christopher Kasparek.

Havana Moon's Los Numeros is pleased to announce that the Security and Intelligence Foundation and National Intelligence Book Center, in Washington DC now carry Havana Moon's "Uno, Dos Cuatro." For a catalog, write to:

Suite 1020
1010 Vermont Avenue, NW,
Washington, DC 20005

CONFIDENTIAL TO HARRY HELMS

How regretful that I live 15 minutes from the beach, whereas you are only 5 minutes away from the beach. However, if I didn't have to dodge numerous Rolls Royces, Mercedes and bikini-clad blondes with names such as Monique and Velvet on MY way to the beach, I, too, would only be 5 minutes away from the beach. Since you only have to dodge Stretch Ugos, don't rub it in!

A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO:

JI, of Aromas, CA. Please don't think that you've been forgotten, James. Your keen interest and participation has been invaluable. I'll be in touch shortly! Thanks also to Zel Eaton of Kirksville, MO, Jim Vickonoff and Ira Martin of San Jose, CA, Kevin Henderson of Tucson, AZ, Mark Pierce of Sun Valley, CA, Gerry Dexter of Tiare Publications, Dr. John Santosuosso of Monitoring Times and Dr. Eli Messenger of The Radiogram.

Special thanks to Harry Helms and Kristin Kaye of Umbra et Lux and John Little of Portal Communications.

And a very special thank you to Faith Craig, the original Ghost of County Line Road - and lest we forget - the infamous Ed Anger, of "Weekly World News" fame. Seems Ed has once again returned, and is "madder than a beaver in a petrified forest" over those "sneaky Commies." Get Real, Ed!! Read The ACE and find out what the world is REALLY all about! And here's a deal you can't turn down, Ed - give ACE a plug, or your true identity just might be revealed!

See you at the Denny's on the beach. Time now for a Tecate and . . .

Havana Moon y Amigas
33469

continued from page 23

rock music and simple ID station is WRNR, which had been active on 6250 khz. This one doesn't have an address and suffers severe QRM on that frequency.

One interesting return is that of WBST, the old Friday the 13th and Halloween pirate. This mysterious station had not been heard since 1984, and many enthusiasts had given up on a return. Although the station never sent any QSLs out to its listeners in the past, I've seen a few sample cards floating around. So maybe they'll change policy (like Radio Angeline) and start. (Add: PO Box 40554, Washington, DC 20016)

The Voice of Monotony with Uncle Salty was planning some Halloween weekend tests, so maybe they showed up. This one plans to air a variety of rock music and comedy with the Slanesville, WV maildrop.

Two more new stations that may eventually make it to the air are CSIC and WOMB, Pre-natal Radio. WOMB plans to use WV address, but I know little else. CSIC will feature comedy and Canadian music and features. I have no information on a maildrop yet.

DX Clipboard

by Andrew Yoder

POB 628

Slanesville, WV 25444

(304) 496-8410, ncc

First off, I'd like to apologize about the R.Clandestine t-shirts again. They should be out to those who ordered in a week or so. Even tho I sent my new address to the printer, they sent the shirts to PA. After sending 2 tracers thru UPS, we discovered that they lost the boxes. The shirts are now getting

reprinted and should be in the mail shortly. If you didn't get a shirt, they're still for sale at \$8.50 (specify M, L, or XL)

Sorry, but I have no idea if KRUD is ever going to QSL anyone. I haven't heard from the op; I think he may've lost interest in the project. Oh well, I guess that's what makes pirate DXing interesting. If they all had skeds & QSL'd 100%, it'd be like goin' after the Canadian regionals. And, no I didn't get a card from them either...

Comments on comments on jamming in October ACE Veried Response. John, why do you think WBRI uses 7490? Did'ya ever think that THEY might run the CW #s stn? Why do ya think they announce the FCC address? Its more than just a coincidence! HI!! (and just kidding) maybe this is a story for Harry and Havanna Moon?

In response to my question about SWL Winterfest, Kris Field called & wrote saying it's on! I believe it's the weekend of Feb.25. They're filling up the Holiday Inn with reservations. He'll probably send more info to ACE later. I'm hoping to meet some of you there.

UNITED WORLD RADIO TO BROADCAST IN STEREO?

Harrison Bergeron from United World Radio has recently called a few DXers across the country to announce his plans for high-powered stereo broadcasts in the winter. He said that the station plans to use "at least a kilowatt" utilizing the ISB stereo system.

ISB stereo works with the left channel in LSB and the right on USB. Between the two sidebands is a synthetic carrier. Unfortunately, receiving the broadcast in stereo will require two high performance receivers: one tuned to LSB, the other to USB. Then, the outputs from the receivers must be fed separately into a stereo tape deck. Overall, the biggest problem for most listeners will be finding two receivers to tune in on.

It may be wise to check to make sure that receivers have no stray AC or DC voltages present. If they do and one or both are solid state, connecting them to the same tape recorder and antenna could cause some damage. Or the signal could just get wiped out by a 60 cycle hum. So, if you aren't sure about your receivers and have a voltmeter handy, be sure to check your connections.

Although the United World Radio stereo broadcast will be significant in the history of American pirate radio, receiving it in stereo is also important for the listener. Keeping up with UWR's past policies of sending prizes to listeners who send cassettes, the station plans to give away larger gifts. Presently, Harrison isn't sure what will be given away, but said that it could be UWR coffee mugs or something else in that approximate price range. But, the gifts will only be sent to those sending in a tape of the broadcast in stereo.

Those wanting to keep track of the UWR stereo project can write: TAGAR, Room 256, Union Building, Stonybrook, NY 11794

New Station Alert!

Once again, a number of new and old stations have taken to the airwaves creating havoc for anyone who's just trying to keep track of the other pirates that have been on over the summer.

One of the most active stations in October was Hope Radio 16. This one fits into that large, nebulous group of stations which tell listeners to send reports to Pop'Com'(a waste). "MJ" regularly airs programs of featured rock music, a DX program, news, and Bill Cosby recordings. 'Tho the info is old and the production a bit rough, this one seems to try to air interesting programming. The station's put great signals across the East.

East Coast Pirate Radio, another active October station, concentrated mostly on playing old album rock singles. 'Tho the station did ask for reports via ACE, it is now announcing the PO Box 6527, Baltimore, MD 21219 address. All announcements are simple and apparently live.

Possibly a one-time station, Monty Python Radio was heard in late October with Monty Python skits in LSB. No QSL information was given; it may've just been a ham "having a little fun." Another station announcing the Baltimore address is WTNU. Since they have not contacted the maildrop about using the address, sending reports there is inadvisable. Another

Letter to the editor

Here are some opinions about information presented in issue of "The ACE":

WSHB

Some listeners complain about interference from WSHB, a station that operates during certain evening hours on 7,400kHz. The potent WSHB signal makes it difficult to hear weak pirate stations and other signals. At least one writer describes WSHB's signal as "wideband transmitter slop" that extends 25kHz above and below its carrier frequency.

It might be helpful to know something about the WSHB operation and steps that can be taken to alleviate the interference. WSHB has two 500kW transmitters and five antennas. The 7,400kHz facility uses one of the transmitters and an antenna with 20dB gain. The effective radiated power to the front of the antenna thus would be 50 million watts.

The transmitters use digital modulators with a maximum "switching rate" that limits the audio response. The modulators pass a maximum of 4,500Hz audio. AM sidebands contain audio energy above and below the carrier at a frequency identical to the audio frequency. Therefore, WSHB's sidebands extend only 4.5kHz above and below the carrier, provided the transmitter is operating normally.

WSHB engineer Bob German told me that he sometimes receives interference complaints from shortwave listeners. Discussions usually reveal a receiver problem, and often he can advise the listener how to reduce the interference.

One ACE columnist said WSHB interferes with the "Havana-New York RTTY circuit on 7,407kHz." Responding, German said broadcasters using frequencies outside assigned bands must change frequencies to resolve a complaint from a licensed, primary user. WSHB's 7,400kHz channel is well outside shortwave bands assigned to North American broadcasters. If the RTTY operators receive interference from WSHB, a complaint from them to the FCC might result in WSHB being required to select another frequency.

WSHB is sensitive to inquiries from shortwave listeners. German said he wants to ensure proper transmitter operation. When I called, at first he thought I had an interference complaint. He wanted to know the date and time of the interference so he could check the transmitter when it next is used with the same frequency and antenna. That is highly responsive "customer service" beyond what most companies in any business offer.

The WSHB engineer said any listener is welcome to call him to let him know of any interference situation. He said he would look into the transmitter operation as soon as possible coincident with a complaint, perhaps during the call, as well as offer reception advice if it seems that the root of the problem more likely is with the listener's equipment. German can be reached at 803-625-4880.

Although pirate broadcasters receive no interference protection, German said licensed international shortwave broadcasters receive no interference protection, either. He said if someone has complaints about WSHB's signal, he would like to hear about them so he can take the appropriate action.

Deliberate interference to pirates

Some ACE members suggest complaints be filed with the FCC when deliberate interference to pirates is heard. According to published reports, one or more pirate broadcasts have been made difficult to hear by an operator who transmits the phrase, "Hello radio" on the

same frequencies used during certain pirate broadcasts. The idea that listeners to the pirate broadcasts might complain to the FCC about one unlicensed operator interfering with another is bold, if not novel.

FCC monitoring station watch officers I've talked with say they have no interest in helping listeners receive signals from unlicensed stations. Apparently, the only thing such complaints would accomplish is to draw attention to the unlicensed signals, pirate and tormenter alike. There is no reason to expect the FCC would take action against the station causing interference to the pirate and leave the pirate alone. Agency policy would seem to require enforcement action against both.

If someone writes a letter to the FCC to describe interference caused by a licensed station, the commission's first step normally is to send a copy of the letter to the station and to request a response. In the case of pirates and their tormenters, no license, name, address or other such identification is part of the situation. Resolving an interference complaint associated with a pirate broadcast is not an exercise that will find the FCC in the role of a sympathetic helper.

Audio frequency response

One writer suggested pirate broadcasters mix audio better, taking into account a frequency response of voices vs. music. The music range was cited as 20Hz to 20,000Hz; the voice range as 300Hz to 3,000Hz.

Without posing as an audio specialist, I would suggest that audio mixing has more to do with "presence" than frequency response. For example, when a DJ plays music at the same volume as his voice, it is easy to hear his voice against an acoustic guitar background but difficult to hear his voice against a brass instrument background. Most DJs, when introducing songs and overlapping their voices with the music, set the microphone and music levels equal.

Music used as a background to commercials generally is played at a softer level. The "presence" thus is adjusted to favor announcer's voice and the message, whereas a DJ introduction to a song usually is intended to focus attention on the music.

Unmodified solid-state ham transceivers some pirates use pass a narrow range of audio frequencies: 300Hz to 2,700Hz or so. Older, tube-type ham transmitters might pass a wider range that delivers better fidelity. If not, they can be more easily modified for high fidelity than most solid-state units can.

That voice frequencies fall within a 300Hz-to-3,000Hz range is not entirely true, although most telephone and radio communications circuits limit the voice to those frequencies. The limitation is adequate for voice recognition, but inadequate for the high fidelity one might desire for a singing voice. At the same time, the 20Hz-to-20,000Hz range is far greater than that required for ordinary enjoyment of music.

Experience with telephone circuits for broadcast audio leads me to the opinion that a frequency range of 100Hz to 5,000Hz gives perfectly adequate AM audio.

Many shortwave receivers reproduce bass notes poorly and cut off treble frequencies with filters intended to eliminate adjacent-channel interference. Pirates who want to deliver the best sound to listeners with receivers capable of high-fidelity reception, though, will get good results if their transmitters pass 100Hz to 5,000Hz audio.

I use a Kenwood R-1000, which has good bass response. When its wideband AM filter is in use, its treble response is reasonable and I improve it with a graphic equalizer. The output is fed to an audio amplifier that drives a pair of big speakers. The resulting audio has excellent

bass and midrange, with treble that is not quite as good as what comes from FM stations—though it approaches FM quality.

The better the bass response, the better the drums and bass guitars sound. The better the treble response, the better the cymbals, tambourines and singers sound.

Transmitter pre-emphasis

Standard AM broadcast stations boost treble frequencies at the transmitter to overcome the high-frequency roll-off imposed by narrowband consumer AM receivers. Broadcast engineers call the boost "pre-emphasis."

Shortwave broadcasters, including pirates, can benefit from some pre-emphasis. Although it increases adjacent-channel interference, a certain amount of pre-emphasis improves the received audio in most receivers. A simple way to add pre-emphasis is with a graphic equalizer. But it is easy to get carried away. Too much pre-emphasis makes a signal sound thin. If it is used with a transmitter that has poor bass response to begin with, pre-emphasis probably would make little improvement. Only the midrange frequencies pass most unmodified ham transmitters.

I hope this information will be helpful to readers of "The ACE."

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transmitter that is located somewhere within a radius of several hundred miles of central Florida. (We still know very little about Radio Caiman!) Propagation inferences like this are quite valuable. Keep up the good work, Vince! (NOTE: The new 1990 edition of Passport to World Band Radio lists the location of Radio Caiman's clandestine transmitter as Guatemala City, Guatemala. I have no idea how they determined this, or whether it is in fact accurate).

Vince also logged La Voz del CID on September 25 on 9941.7 KHz at 0130 UTC, with CID ID's and a Radio Camilo Cienfuegos program ID. Vince heard music, comedy, a discussion of the Nicaraguan Sandanistas, and mention of marijuana traffic from Colombia, in addition to the normal Cuban subject matter. This CID transmission had a near-local signal strength in Florida, with a SIO= approaching 555. (NOTE: The 1990 Passport book lists CID's transmitter QTH as "Guatemala?").

PANAMA VIA RADIO IMPACTO

In the October issue of CCN, Gerry Dexter points out that no known SWBC clandestines are on the air with Panama as a target country. However, an anti-Panama government program is being produced by Panamanian Senator-in-exile Mayin Correa, and it is scheduled nightly on Radio Impacto from Costa Rica, which uses 5030 or 5044 // 6160 KHz. The show usually appears around 0400 UTC, and this station's 60 meter frequency is always very well heard here in North America.

MANY THANKS!

We have another great column this month because of a landslide of excellent reports. We all thank Bob Ross (Ontario), Vince Havrilko (Florida), Bob Brown (Pennsylvania), Mark Pierce (California), Steve Forrest (Ohio), Gerry Dexter (Wisconsin), Kirk Baxter (Kansas), Free Radio One (Oregon), Homer Green (Texas; hope to hear from you again, Homer!), Sarah Foster (California Libertarian Party Newsletter, hope to hear from you again, Sarah!), and George Zeller (Ohio). We look forward to your information by November 16 for the December A*CE "Clandestine Profile."

*** under the door ***

QSL report for: November 1989

Ontario's Bob Ross posts a full data blue & white card from Samurai Radio - 6200 and 6275 signed by Eddie Currents in seven weeks, a full data photo card (#9) from RFM - 7415.5 signed by HV Short in 13 days, and two full data computer generated sheets from the Voice of Stench - 7415 signed by Eddie Egghead Johnson and John Isa Toilet in 18 days.

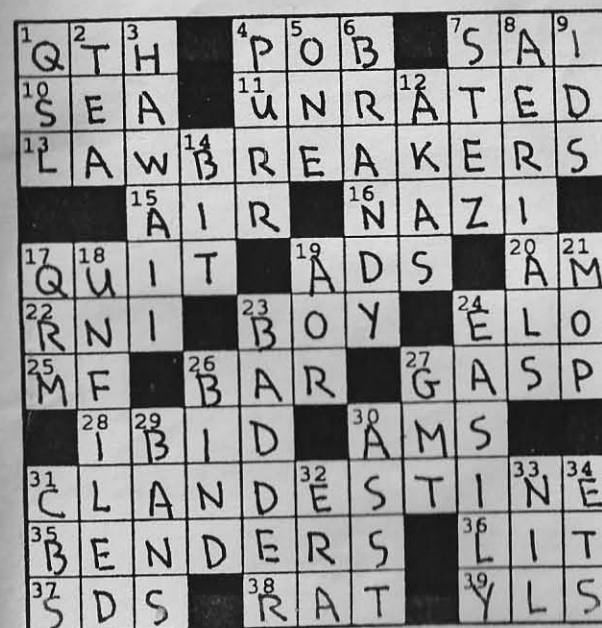
Massachusetts's Don Spooner has framed two blue sheets from Radio Clandestine - 7355 signed by Burns. Don was the first to receive the Gold Stamp with RC's "#1 SWL status". [congrats. jta]

Ohio's George Zeller got a full data photo QSL (#4) from RFM signed by H. V. Short in 15 days, and a full data blue sheet from PRNet for a Radio Morania relay signed by Burns in 146 days.

Virginia's Steve Rogovich tacked up a full data blue sheet from Radio Clandestine - 7355 signed by Burns in 98 days. Sheet said Steve was the third to have attained RC's "#1 SWL status" for his many reports.

And ye olde editor nailed down two full data cards from Weekend Music Radio - 15043 signed by Jack Russel who sed 80 watts and sent along four stickers and a personal note and did it all in 27 days.

Best of DX and 73...



SOLUTION TO
LAST MONTH'S
PUZZLE
by
Mark Pierce

ASSOCIATION OF CLANDESTINE RADIO ENTHUSIASTS

P. O. Box 11201

Shawnee Mission, KS 66207-0201

The A*C*E is an association of individuals who find pirate, clandestine and covert communications an interesting part of their radio listening hobby. The primary existence of the club revolves around the publication of a monthly bulletin, The A*C*E. The bulletin reports on pirate, clandestine, covert and other unexplained broadcasts. Also, the readers are provided with other available material concerning motives, explanations and theories behind these various broadcasts and broadcasters. The ACE as an organization, does not encourage, support or condone any illegal activity; we simply seek to understand the nature and reasoning behind such broadcasts. If your interests include listening to pirate radio stations, clandestine broadcasts and covert communications, The A*C*E is for you!!

Our Editors...

John Arthur Veried Response
Kirk Baxter DiaLogs
Harry Helms Covert Corner
Havana Moon The Los Numeros Update
Andrew Yoder DX Clip Board
George Zeller Clandestine Profile

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